IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Tomoyuki Ohzeki

Application No.: 10/760,496 Group Art Unit: 1795

Confirmation No.: 1131 Examiner: Thorl Chea

Filed: January 21, 2004

Docket No.: FS-F03224-01

For: **PHOTOTHERMOGRAPHIC MATERIAL**

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.132

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I, Tomoyuki Ohzeki, do declare and state as follows:

I graduated from Waseda University with a Master's Degree in Science, Department of Chemistry in March 1988;

I joined Fuji Photo Film Co., Ltd. (now FUJIFILM Corporation) in April 1988, and from 1989 to 1997, I was engaged in research and development in the field of silver halide photographic photosensitive materials. Since 1998, I have been engaged in research and development in the field of photothermographic materials and am a person of at least ordinary skill in the art; and

I am familiar with the Office Action of October 9, 2007, and understand the Examiner's rejections therein.

The following additional comparative experiments were carried out by me or under my supervision in order to make the advantages of the invention more clear.

EXPERIMENTS

1. Preparation of photothermographic materials

Additional samples were prepared in a manner similar to sample Nos. 2, 3 in Table 15 (see page 423) of Example 1 in the specification, except that a compound having an adsorption group and a reducing group or a compound described in Okada, a development accelerator, and a reducing agent were changed, respectively, as shown Table A. A compound having adsorptive group and reducible group was used at 8×10^{-3} mol per 1 mol of silver halide.

Sample Nos. 1 to 3 are comparative samples which do not contain a compound having an adsorption group and a reducing group.

Sample Nos. E and F are comparative samples which contain compound 1 or 2 of Okada, respectively.

Sample Nos. C and D are inventive samples which contain compound (71) according to a compound having an adsorption group and a reducing group of invention.

Sample Nos. G and H are comparative samples which contain a compound having an adsorption group and a reducing group, but do not contain a reducing agent.

2. Evaluation of the samples

The obtained photothermographic materials were evaluated in a manner similar to Example 1.

The results obtained are shown in Table A.

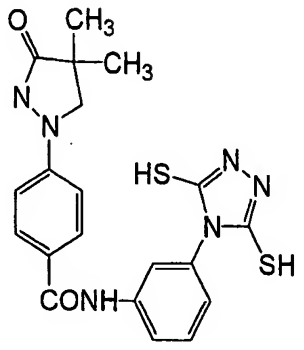
The obtained data presented in Table A clearly shows that sample Nos. C and D containing the compound having an adsorption group and a reducing group as set forth in the present invention resulted in unexpectedly excellent performance with a significantly large increase in sensitivity while keeping low fog, stable raw stock

storability and image stability. In contrast, comparative sample Nos. E and F which used compound 1 or 2 of Okada did not provide the increase of sensitivity, but resulted in lower raw stock storability than sample Nos. C or D.

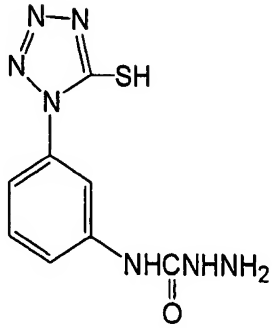
Sample Nos. G or H are comparative samples which include a compound having an adsorption group and a reducing group, but does not include any reducing agent resulted in no image, and thus it shows that the compound having an adsorption group and a reducing group in the invention could not produce image only by itself without a reducing agent.

Table A

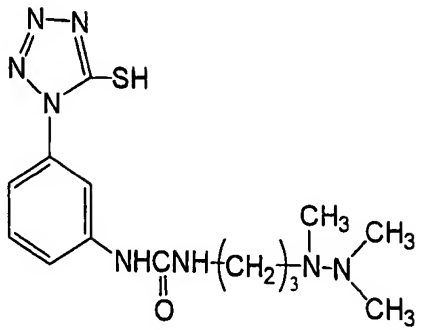
Sample No.	AgI Content (mol%)	Compound Having Adsorption Group and Reducing Group	Development Accelerator		Reducing Agent	Sensitivity	Fog	Raw Stock Storability (Sensitivity Variation)	Print-out Resistance	Remarks
			Compound	Addition Amount (mol/m^2)						
1	100	–	–	–	added	100	0.16	20	0.03	Comparative
2	100	–	1-68	2×10^{-3}	added	120	0.17	15	0.03	Comparative
3	100	–	6-41	2×10^{-3}	added	120	0.17	15	0.03	Comparative
E	100	Compound 1 (Okada)	1-68	2×10^{-3}	added	122	0.17	16	0.03	Comparative
F	100	Compound 2 (Okada)	6-41	2×10^{-3}	added	119	0.18	18	0.03	Comparative
C	100	(71)	1-68	2×10^{-3}	added	194	0.17	8	0.03	Inventive
D	100	(71)	6-41	2×10^{-3}	added	196	0.16	7	0.03	Inventive
G	100	(71)	1-68	2×10^{-3}	not added	no image	–	–	0.01	Comparative
H	100	(71)	6-41	2×10^{-3}	not added	no image	–	–	0.01	Comparative



(71)



Compound 1 (Okada)



Compound 2 (Okada)

3F-2. 20080310081839

I declare further that all statements made herein of may own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Date: March 10, 2008

Tomoyuki Ohzeki

Tomoyuki Ohzeki